



Chris Owens
Director



We are enjoying the "holiday season" with its decorations, excitement, special observances and tradition of giving!

First Lady, Jane Beshear, announced during a visit to the Family Scholar House, the donation of 500 books to Kentucky children as part of a ["Give the Gift of Reading This Holiday Season"](#) campaign by Scholastic.

Especially important is to remember safety when gifting giving. December is **Safe Toys & Gifts Month**.

The Gift of Health: Kentucky Commission on Women unveiled a new [women's health kiosk](#). The kiosks bring information to women through use of a touch screens. These "electronic wellness guides" can provide information in various languages on a wide range of health issues. Louisville is fortunate to have kiosks located at [Park Duvalle](#) and [U of L School of Dentistry](#). ([video](#))

Don't forget! [Kentucky's Shop & Share](#), February 2nd to benefit domestic violence shelters.

OFW Reports to be Released in December 2012

Next week, OFW e-NEWS will focus on the status of women in our community. Three reports will be released.

The first is entitled, *The Status of Louisville Women*. It provides snapshots of the typical circumstances of women—our health, economic standing, and changing demographics. For example, we find that female head of households were more than 11 times as likely to live in poverty as males with no wife present and the median age for women in the county was 39 years and four months.

The second report describes the *circumstances of homeless women* interviewed over the past five years at Louisville's Homeless Connect/Stand Down. This annual event is a collabora-

tion by the Louisville Metro Department of Community Services and Revitalization (CSR), the Robley Rex Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC), Coalition for the Homeless and the KY Department of Veterans Affairs. Thanks to numerous partners, volunteers and supporting agencies, this event serves several hundred people each year. The interviews conducted by OFW were completely voluntary. On average 20-30% of women seeking services each year volunteered to participate.

The third report contains an analysis of public information on selected local domestic violence fatalities. News reports and other public documents were reviewed for approximately 30% of domestic violence fatalities during the past five years.

Thanks to the Hardworking OFW Interns

Autumn Brents, an Indiana University Southeast student, has completed her time with us. Autumn assisted with several OFW activities, including registration at the Women's Summit in September and Homeless Connect.

Autumn participated in interviewing homeless women, compiling the 2012 responses, and compiling the

report from data collected in previously years for the 2012 report. You can see the results next week.

Earlier in 2012, Tania Lynch completed research on Teen Dating Violence in a collaborative internship with OFW and the Center for Women and Families. Her [presentation is available](#) on OFW's website.



Autumn Brents



OTHER OFW LINKS OF
INTEREST TO WOMEN

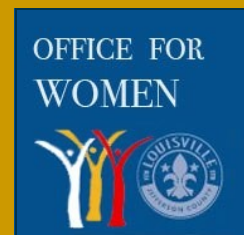


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December News from LMVEC

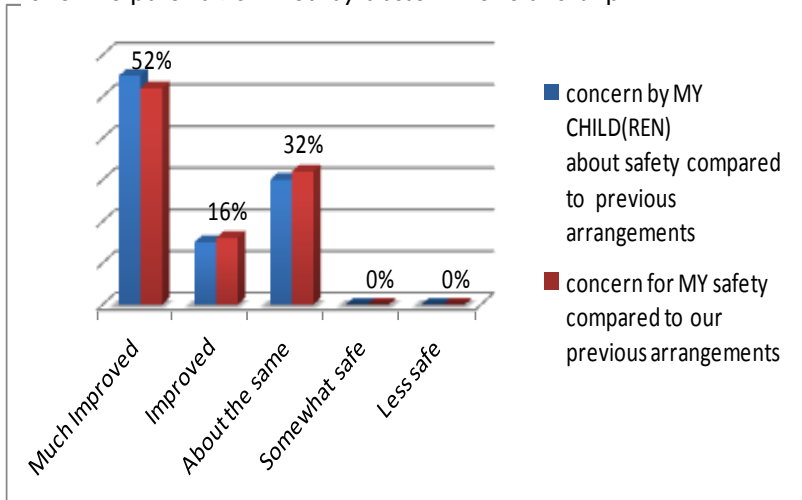
By: Kathryn Tillett—Community Outreach

The Louisville Metro Visitation and Exchange Center (LMVEC), which provides supervised visitation and safe exchange of children for parents in situations involving domestic violence, recently conducted its semi-annual survey of client families. Roughly the same number of visiting parents and residential parents completed surveys.

An overwhelming majority of participants reported satisfaction with LMVEC services and staff, and felt the facilities were child friendly. Importantly, many parents responded that compared to their previous arrangements for visitation or exchange, using LMVEC had led to reduction in their safety concerns and those expressed by their children.

Wrote one parent, "it would be nice if there were more Visitation Center locations. I really appreciate all that the friendly staff do." Many thanks to all who helped us with this feedback and to the hardworking LMVEC employees at Home of the Innocents and Family and Children's Place!

The chart represents responses from Residential Parents who were most often the parents victimized by abuse in the relationship.



LMVEC is funded by a Safe Havens Grant awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, Office of Justice programs (U.S. Dept of Justice) with additional support from Louisville Metro Government.

From OFW's Community Calendar

- [CSR—Department Calendar & News](#)
- [Christmas at the Galt House](#)
- [The Last Hanukkah Christmas Play](#)
- [A m e r l c a n a Fiberworks](#)
- [Creating Lasting Family Connections](#)

SCHNEIDER HALL GALLERIES TO EXHIBIT STUDENT ARTWORK —The Hite Art Institute at the University of Louisville presents the 2012 Fall Exhibit **now through Friday, December 21**. The exhibition features artwork by students graduating with their [Bachelor of Fine Arts](#). The work is on display in the Schneider Hall Galleries at UofL's Belknap Campus.

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DEPARTMENT OF
**COMMUNITY SERVICES
AND REVITALIZATION**



{Calling all volunteers}

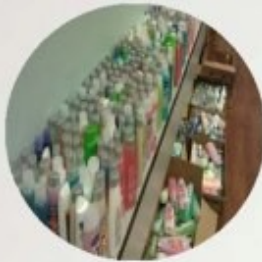
SHOP & SHARE

Saturday, February 2, 2013

We Need You!

Kroger Stores across Kentucky will be collecting donated goods to benefit the state's 15 domestic violence shelters.

Donations collected at Louisville area Kroger stores benefit **The Center for Women and Families**. Volunteers will greet shoppers, collect donated items and deliver items to our main campus.



How You Can Help

- * Do you have 4 hours of your time to donate?
- * Are you apart of a school, church, or other group?
- * Do you have or are you a student in a service program or organization?
- * Do you want to give your time to help others?

Shop & Share is the perfect volunteer opportunity



We are currently recruiting volunteers, visit our pages at:

- * www.thecenteronline.org
- * www.facebook.com/shopsharelouisville

TO REGISTER: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2JNN22R>



Shop & Share is a joint initiative of the First Lady's Office, the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association (KDVA), Kroger, Food City, the Kentucky Commission on Women, the Federation of Women's Clubs, and the Girl Scout Clubs of Kentucky, to collect needed goods and funds for the 15 domestic violence shelters across the Commonwealth.

